GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:865
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2016
Operations of Private Airlines
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to persuade the private airlines to operate on loss making regional routes, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy as part of the regional connectivity plan, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government for boosting regional air connectivity in the country?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) to (d) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services of different regions of the country.

The guideline specifies that all scheduled operators are required to deploy in the North Eastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand (Category II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk routes (Category-I routes). Further, at least 10% of the capacity thus required to be deployed on Category-II routes, is required to be deployed for connectivity exclusively within these regions.

50% of the capacity deployed on Category-I routes is to be deployed on routes other than Category-I and category-II routes i.e. Category-III routes.

The regional connectivity is being accorded high priority by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and accordingly the Draft National Civil Aviation Policy inter alia proposes for Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS).